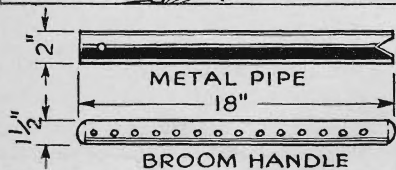
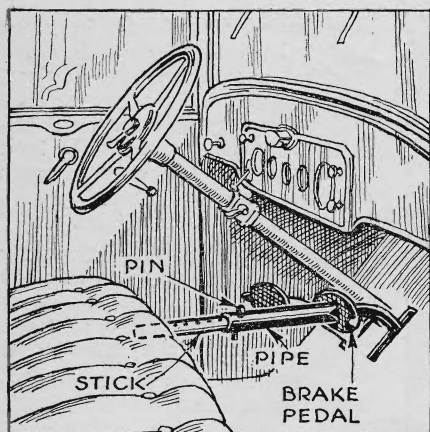


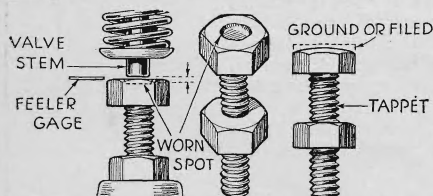
Helpful Hints for Motorists

Practical Suggestions for Doing Car Jobs Submitted by Interested Readers



Homemade Brake Stick

WHEN adjusting brakes you will often find it necessary to depress the brake pedal to some particular position. This is an easy one-man job if you use a simple improvised brake stick made from a scrap piece of pipe and the handle from an old broom. The broomstick should be an easy sliding fit in the pipe. Drill a hole $\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter in one end of the pipe, as shown, and a series of $\frac{1}{4}$ in. holes spaced about 1 in. apart along the full length of the 18 in. section of broom handle. Then a small nail or cotter pin slipped through matching holes will allow you to adjust the telescoping rods to any desired length. In use, the brake stick is set to the desired length and wedged between the front seat and the brake pedal. A V-notch cut in the end of the pipe will prevent the stick from slipping on the surface of the brake pedal. A rubber cane tip will serve as a nonskid cap for the end of the broom handle. When not in use, the stick can be completely telescoped and stored in your repair kit.—J. H.



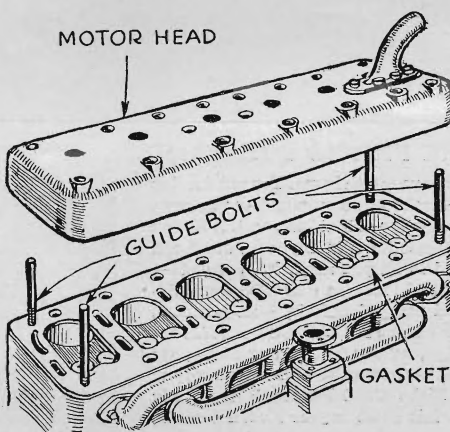
Grinding Tappets

WHEN car valves cause trouble even after careful adjustment, the difficulty generally can be traced to the top surfaces of the valve tappets. With continued use, the tappets wear away and a small pit or depression is formed where

they come in contact with the ends of the valve stems. This recess makes it impossible to adjust the valves accurately since the feeler gage will not show the actual clearance between stems and tappets. To remedy this, remove the tappets and grind or file out the pits, making the top surfaces slightly dome-shaped. With the valve stem resting on a flat surface, accurate adjustment can be made easily.—D. J.

Replacing Motor Head

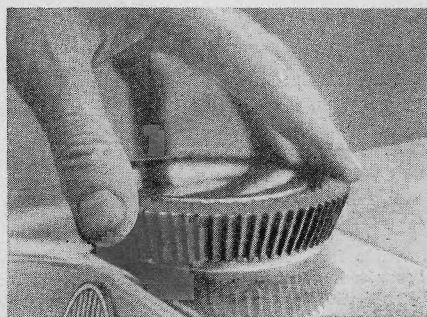
IN REPLACING a cylinder head, it is often difficult to center the gasket and the head. This trouble can be overcome, however, by cutting the heads from four old cylinder head bolts and using them as guides as shown below. The headless bolts are screwed loosely in place and the gasket and head placed over them. The guide bolts then can be removed.—C. C., Jr.



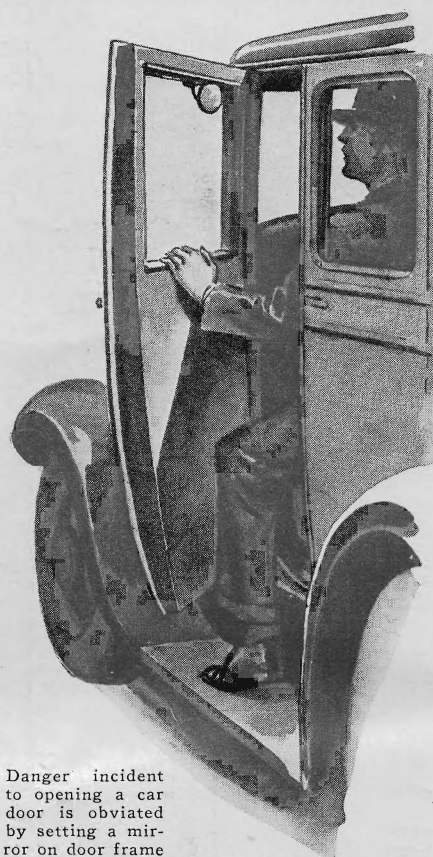
Bolts from old cylinder head are used as guides in centering gasket and cylinder head

Radiator Cap Grip

A SOFT rubber fruit jar cover remover forms an excellent heat-proof grip for a radiator cap. Simply force it in place and leave it there. It is neat in appearance, affords a cool grip, and protects the metal cap should it accidentally be dropped on a concrete road or hard-surfaced garage floor.—F. W. B., Jr.



Rubber, used in removing fruit jar cover, is slipped over radiator cap to give cool grip



Safety Mirror on Door

OPENING the car door next to the driver is risky business, especially on a crowded road. However, you can guard yourself and your car against possible injury by installing a small mirror on the upper edge of the window frame. Solder a small pocket mirror to a piece of fairly heavy wire attached to the frame by looping it around one of the window frame screws. The wire then can be bent to hold the mirror at the right angle. The mirror should be adjusted so that it gives a clear view of the road parallel to the car when the door is opened six or eight inches. Sometimes it is possible also to arrange the mirror to give a valuable oblique view through the rear window.—W. E. B.

For Silent Windows

ANNOYING window rattles caused by worn-out felt guide-strips can be stopped with a few lengths of ordinary friction tape. With the windows down as far as you can get them, force the tape against each side of the guides in the manner shown, the smooth side to the glass. The tape will serve as a soft liner to build up the flattened guides and hold the glass firmly in place in the grooves.—M. L. W.

